

# Betsy Sinclair

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## Academic Background

Thomas F. Eagleton University Professorship in Public Affairs and Political Science, Washington University in St Louis. November 2024-present.

Department Chair, 2022-present.

Co-Director of the Incubator for Transdisciplinary Futures, 2021-present.

Professor of Political Science and Professor of Mathematics and Statistics (Courtesy), Washington University in St Louis. July 2018-present.

Associate Chair, Spring 2022.

Director of Graduate Studies, 2017-2020.

Associate Professor of Political Science, Washington University in St Louis. July 2013 - 2018.

Associate Professor of Mathematics and Statistics (Courtesy). October 2014-2018.

Assistant Professor, University of Chicago, Political Science. July 2007-July 2013.

California Institute of Technology, MS, June 2004 (Social Science), Ph.D, May 2007 (Social Science).

Dissertation Title: "Political Networks: When a Democrat Votes Republican."

University of Redlands, *magna cum laude*, departmental honors and Phi Beta Kappa, June 2002 (Mathematics and Economics).

## Publications

### Books

Betsy Sinclair. 2012. *The Social Citizen*. University of Chicago Press: Chicago. (Winner of the Gladys M. Kammerer Award from the American Political Science Association.)

Betsy Sinclair and Thad Hall. 2018. *Politics for a Connected Public*. Oxford University Press.

Betsy Sinclair and Steven Webster. 2024. *Collectively Partisan*. Under review.

*The Politics of the Primary: Election Rules, Voting Behavior, and Political Representation*. With R. Michael Alvarez, Christian Grose, and J. Andrew Sinclair. In progress.

### Journal Articles

Mike Alvarez, Christian Grose, Andy Sinclair and Betsy Sinclair. 2024. "Electoral Innovation and the Alaska Electoral System: Partisanship and Populism Are Associated with Support for the Top-4/Ranked-Choice Voting." *PRQ*.

Alvarez, R. M., Das, Sanmay, Ebanks, D., Sinclair, B and Yan, Hao. "Legislative Communication and Power: Measuring Leadership in the U.S. House of Representatives from Social Media Data." *EJPS* (forthcoming)

Homola, Jonathan, Michelle Torres, Patrick Tucker, Steven Webster, Jon Rogowski and Betsy Sinclair. 2023. "Through the Ideology of the Beholder: How Ideology Shapes Perceptions of Partisan Groups and Magnifies Social Distance." *PSRM* 11 (2), 275-292.

Webster, Steven, Elizabeth Connors and Betsy Sinclair. 2022. "The Social Consequences of Political Anger." *Journal of Politics*. 84(3).

Das, Sanmay, Betsy Sinclair, Steven Webster and Hao Yan. 2022. "All (Mayoral) Politics is Local?" *Journal of Politics*. 84 (2), 1021-1034.

Sinclair, Betsy and Sinclair, J. Andrew. 2021 "Primaries and Populism: Voter Efficacy, Champions, and Election Rules." *Journal of Political Institutions and Political Economy*. 2 (3), 365-388.

Kim, Jeong Hyun, Min Hee Seo and Betsy Sinclair. 2021. "Local Weather Effects: Perception of Climate Change and Public Support for Government Intervention." *Social Science Quarterly* 102(2): 881-896.

Yan, Hao, Sanmay Das, Allen Lavoie, Sirui Li and Betsy Sinclair. 2019. "The Congressional Classification Challenge: Domain Specificity and Partisan Intensity." *Proceedings of the 2019 ACM Conference on Economics and Computation* 71-89.

Smith, Steven S., Betsy Sinclair and Patrick Tucker. "It's largely a rigged system: Voter Confidence and the Winner Effect in 2016." *Political Research Quarterly* 71 (4), 854-868.

Boston, Josh, Jonathan Homola, Betsy Sinclair, Michelle Torres, and Patrick Tucker. "The Dynamic Relationship between Personality Stability and Political Attitudes." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 82 (4), 793-793.

Benjamin, D. J., Berger, J. O., Johannesson, M., Nosek, B.A., Wagenmakers, E. et al. 2017. "Redefine Statistical Significance." *Nature Human Behavior*.

Monroe, Burt L, Jennifer Pan, Margaret E Roberts, Maya Sen, and Betsy Sinclair. 2015. "No! Formal Theory, Causal Inference, and Big Data Are Not Contradictory Trends in Political Science." *PS: Political Science and Politics* 48 (1): 71-74.

Betsy Sinclair and Michael Wray. 2015. "Googling the Top Two: Information Search in California's Top Two Primary." *California Journal of Public Policy* 7(1): 1-12.

Betsy Sinclair, Margaret McConnell and Melissa R. Michelson. 2013. "Local Canvassing and Social Pressure: The Efficacy of Grassroots Voter Mobilization." *Political Communication* 30(1): 52-57.

Betsy Sinclair, Margaret McConnell and Donald P. Green. 2012. "Detecting Spillover in Social Networks: Design and Analysis of Multilevel Experiments." *The American Journal of Political Science* 56(4):1055-1069.

Jon Rogowski and Betsy Sinclair. 2012. "Estimating the Causal Effects of Social Interaction with Endogenous Networks." *Political Analysis* 20(3).

R. Michael Alvarez and Betsy Sinclair. 2012. "Electoral Institutions and Legislative Behavior: The Effects of the Primary Processes." *Political Research Quarterly* 65(2).

Betsy Sinclair and Charles Plott. 2012. "From Uninformed to Informed Choices: Pre-Election Polls and Updating." *Electoral Studies* 31: 83-95.

Betsy Sinclair, R. Michael Alvarez and Thad E. Hall. 2011. "Flooding the Vote: Hurricane Katrina and Voter Participation in New Orleans." *American Politics Research* 39(5): 921-957.

James Fowler, Michael Heaney, David Nickerson, John Padgett and Betsy Sinclair. 2011. "Causality in Political Networks." *American Politics Research* 39(2): 437-480.

Thad E. Hall and Betsy Sinclair. 2011. "The American Internet Voter." *The Journal of Political Marketing* 10(1-2): 58-79.

R. Michael Alvarez, Asa Hopkins and Betsy Sinclair. 2010. "Mobilizing Pasadena Democrats: Measuring the Effects of Partisan Campaign Contacts." *The Journal of Politics* 72 (1): 31-44.

Julia Eaton, Anant Godbole and Betsy Sinclair. 2010. "Competition Between Discrete Random Variables, with Applications to Occupancy." *The Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference* 140: 2204-12.

R. Michael Alvarez, Thad E. Hall and Betsy Sinclair. 2008. "Whose Absentee Votes are Counted: The Variety and Use of Absentee Ballots in California." *Electoral Studies* 27 (4): 673-83.

R. Michael Alvarez, Betsy Sinclair and Richard L. Hasen. 2006. "How Much is Enough? The Ballot Order Effect and the Use of Social Science Research in Election Law Disputes." *Election Law Journal* 5 (1): 40-56.

Betsy Sinclair and R. Michael Alvarez. 2004. "Who Overvotes, Who Undervotes, Using Punch-cards? Evidence from Los Angeles County." *Political Research Quarterly* 57 (1): 15-25.

### **Chapters in Edited Volumes**

Sinclair, Betsy, Steven S. Smith and Patrick D. Tucker. 2018. "The Fragile Trump Coalition." For Samuel Kernell and Steven S. Smith, eds., *The Principles and Practice of American Politics* 7th ed. CQ Press.\*

Rogowski, Jon and Betsy Sinclair. 2016. "Causal Inference in Political Networks." Eds. Jennifer Victor, Mark Lubell and Alexander Montgomery. *Handbook of Political Networks*. Oxford University Press.

Levin, Ines and Betsy Sinclair. 2016. "Causal Inference with Complex Survey Designs: Generating Population Estimates Using Survey Weights." Ed. R. Michael Alvarez. *Handbook of Polling and Polling Methods*. Oxford University Press.

Sinclair, Betsy. 2015. "Network Structure and Social Outcomes: Network Analysis for Social Science." *Computational Social Science: Discovery and Prediction*. Ed. R. Michael Alvarez. Cambridge University Press.

Allen Linton II and Betsy Sinclair. 2015. "Network Research Experiments" in *Emerging Trends in the Social and Behavioral Sciences*, Eds. Robert Scott and Stephen Kosslyn, Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley and Sons.

Betsy Sinclair. 2011. "Design and Analysis of Experiments in Multilevel Populations" Ed. Jamie Druckman, Donald P. Green and Skip Lupia *Experimental Handbook*, New York: Cambridge University Press.

R. Michael Alvarez, D. Roderick Kiewiet and Betsy Sinclair. 2006. "Rational Voters and the Recall Election." *Clicker Politics* Ed. Shawn Bowler and Bruce Cain, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall.

R. Michael Alvarez, Betsy Sinclair and Catherine Wilson. 2004. "Counting Ballots in the 2000 Election: What Went Wrong?" *Rethinking the Vote* Ed. A. Crigler, Marion R. Just and Edward J. McCaffery. New York: Oxford University Press, 34-50.

## **Honors and Awards:**

Fellow of the Society of Political Methodology, 2021.

Winner of the 2017 Emerging Scholar Award from the Political Methodology section of the American Political Science Association.

National Science Foundation Grant, titled "California Top Two Primary".

Weidenbaum Center Research Grant, titled "Polarization and Its Solutions: The Top Two Primary".

National Science Foundation Grant, titled "Dynamic Weighting of Panel Data" (\$87,524).

Weidenbaum Center Research Grant, titled "Partisan Motivated Reasoning and Climate Change" (\$6,000).

Winner of the 2013 Emerging Scholar Award from the Elections, Public Opinion, and Voting Behavior section of the American Political Science Association.

National Science Foundation Mini-Conference Grant, titled "Causality and Political Networks" (\$10,800).

Social Science Divisional Research Grant, titled "Social Spaces" (\$3000).

Social Science Divisional Research Grant, titled "Social Campaign Giving" (\$3000).

Dirksen Congressional Center Grant, titled "Socializing in Session" (\$3500).

Social Science Divisional Research Grant, titled "Social Basis of Legislative Organization" (\$3000).

Social Sciences Divisional Research Grant for CCAP survey questions, titled "Political Communication Networks" (\$5,000).

Winning proposal for the Voting Technology Project Initiative, titled "Pollworker Education: A Field Experiment", joint with Delia Bailey (\$10,000).

Winning proposal for 2006 ANES Pilot Study, titled "Political Networks".

Haynes Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, academic year 2006-2007.

Society of Political Methodology Poster Award for best poster, Political Methodology Conference, July 2005. Poster title: "Matching with Multi-Valued Treatment: An Application to the Ballot Order Effect."

HSS Divisional Fellowship, Caltech, academic year 2002-2003.

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellow at Caltech with Professor R. Michael Alvarez, Summer 2001.

"Best Undergraduate Research Presentation". Annual Meeting of the Mathematical Association of America (Mathfest), August 2000.

## Teaching Experience

### Washington University in St Louis

American Political Behavior, graduate course

Public Opinion and American Democracy, undergraduate course

Quantitative Political Methodology, undergraduate course

Causal Inference, graduate course

Politics for a Connected Public, undergraduate course

State and Local Politics, graduate course.

Stories that Win, undergraduate course

### University of Chicago

Causal Inference, graduate course.

American Political Behavior (Winter 2009), graduate course.

American Politics Field Seminar, graduate course.

Social Science Inquiry, undergraduate course.

Political Communications Networks, undergraduate course.

## Professional Service

Associate editor of *Political Analysis* (2014-2023).

Associate editor of *Journal of Experimental Political Science* (2016-2022).

Member of the *Journal of Politics* editorial board (2010-present).

Member of the *American Journal of Political Science* editorial board (2014-present).

Member of the *American Political Science Review* editorial board (2016-present).

Member of the *Journal of Behavioral Public Administration* editorial board (2017-present).

Associate editor of *Journal of Public Policy* (2013-2016).

Member of the Experiments in Governance and Politics Network (EGAP) (2012-present).

Society for Political Methodology: Best Graduate Poster Committee, 2007 and 2009. Williams' Dissertation Proposal Prize Committee, 2009. Gosnell Award Committee (Best Paper), 2009, 2010 and 2011, Member at Large for the Executive Council, 2012-2014, Chair of the Diversity Committee (2015-2017), Member of the Diversity Committee (2017-2020), Program Committee (2015, 2017), Webmasterina (2015-2016), President of Visions in Methodology (2019-2024), Vice President of the Society of Political Methodology (2019-2021). President of the Society of Political Methodology (2021-2024).

Midwest Political Science Association: Panel Chair, Voting Behavior and Participation, 2009. Panel Chair, Health, Education and Social Policy, 2017.

Political Networks: Development Committee, 2009. Best Graduate Poster Committee, 2009. Award Committee, 2010. Annual Meeting Co-Chair, 2011. Chair of the Section (2013-2014). Co-organizer, annual meeting, 2016.

American Political Science Association: Panel Chair, Political Networks, 2010 and 2016. Panel Chair, Experimental Political Science, 2014, 2017.

Southern Political Science Association: Panel Chair, Political Networks, 2017 and 2014.

National Science Foundation Panel Member, 2021-present.

Department/University Service: (Chicago) Admissions Committee (2008/2009, 2010/2011, 2011/2012), Awards Committee (2009/2010), Goettler Committee (2009/2010), Mellon and Gray Fellowship Committee (2009/2010), Methods Curriculum Committee (2012), Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (2012-2013), (WUSTL) Executive Committee (2013-2014, 2017-2022), American Politics Search Committee Chair (Fall 2013), Search Committee Member (Fall 2015, Fall 2017), University Cur-

riculum Committee (2016-2020), AWM faculty member (2017-present), Director of Graduate Studies (2019-2021), Co-Director of the Incubator for Transdisciplinary Futures (2022-present), Search Committee Member for the Dept of Mathematics, Search Committee Member for the Dept of Statistics and Data Science, Member of the Graduate Council (2021-2023), Associate Chair (January 2023-July 2023), Member of the Digital Transformations Steering Committee (2023-present), Department Chair (July 2023-present).

Referree: *Political Research Quarterly, Journal of Politics, Political Analysis, American Political Science Review, Economics and Politics, Electoral Studies, American Journal of Political Science, Public Opinion Quarterly, Political Communication, Cambridge University Press, American Politics Research, Political Behavior, International Journal of Public Opinion, Quarterly Journal of Political Science, Sociological Methods and Research, Norton Press, State Politics and Policy Quarterly, Du Bois Review, Palgrave Press, Legislative Studies Quarterly, Journal of Public Policy*

## **Of Interest**

My Erdos number is 3. Me to Anant Godbole to Svante Janson to Paul Erdos.